

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES  
DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING  
ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO SERVICES**

**NOTICE:** 04-03

**DATE:** July 12, 2004

**DISPOSAL DATE:** Ongoing

**RE:** Food Stamp Program  
Participation Grant  
Demonstration Sites

**To:** County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Tribal Chairpersons/Human Services Facilitators  
Tribal Economic Support Directors

**From:** Mark B. Moody  
Administrator  
Division of Health Care Financing

**Purpose**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the selection of community-based demonstration sites for the Food Stamp Program Participation Grant. Because demonstration sites may conduct activities in their area to promote their participation in the grant, we wanted local agencies to be aware of the project.

**Introduction**

As you may know, USDA recently awarded the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) a \$1.7 million grant to develop and implement Internet-based access tools for the Food Stamp Program. This project is designed to increase participation in the Food Stamp Program, increase consumer awareness of potential eligibility for food stamps and other nutrition and health care programs, improve customer service, and improve the quality of applications submitted to local agencies. The first phase of the project is the development of an online self-assessment tool that will allow Wisconsin residents to find out more about their potential eligibility for food stamp benefits, Family Medicaid, and SeniorCare.

The following organizations will serve as demonstration sites:

- Four community-based sites in Milwaukee: South Milwaukee Human Concerns; Milwaukee Christian Center; Central City Churches; and Silver Spring Neighborhood Center. These sites were selected in partnership with Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee.
- Two Community Action Agencies (CAAs): WestCAP and CAP Services. WestCAP's service area includes Polk, Barron, Chippewa, Pepin, Dunn, Pierce and St. Croix counties. The service area for CAP Services includes Marquette, Portage, Waupaca, Waushara and Outagamie counties.
- Nine tribal health facilities, including St. Croix, Ho-Chunk, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Bad River, Red Cliff, Stockbridge-Munsee, Sokaogon and Oneida tribes.

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We are also working with Wisconsin's WIC program to select three WIC agencies to serve as demonstration sites.

In addition to working with the above organizations as demonstration sites, we will encourage other community agencies to provide their customers with access and referral to the online tools. These "Community Access Points" – such as food pantries, family resource centers, health clinics, and libraries – will help us reach a broad audience of potential program participants. Because the tools will be available through a publicly accessible web site, any local service provider with Internet access can serve as a Community Access Point.

We will provide local agencies with more detailed information about the online screening tool in an operations memo prior to our August 16, 2004 implementation date. In the meantime, if you have questions about the demonstration sites or the Food Stamp Program Participation Grant, please contact Autumn Arnold at 608-266-0157, or [arnolad@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:arnolad@dhfs.state.wi.us) or Janet Even at 608-267-7115 or [evenjc@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:evenjc@dhfs.state.wi.us).

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